**IT Applications Unit 3, AOS 1, Online Communities**

Complete the following, from Chapter 2, Online Communities, pgs, 51-58

**Website that support online communities**

**Wikis**

1. Describe the nature of a wiki.

Its is a public website that contains information where anyone can edit data on pages.

1. What are strengths of wikis?

It is a public collaboration of information on certain topics, or just information in general, the power of a mass of people, they all might have a little to add to the knowledge about the subject but in total it add up to a mass of information.

1. Distinguish between, public, protected and private wikis.

Public wikis are just that, they are accessible from anyone anywhere and can be modified by them.

Protected wikis, they are public in the scene that they can be viewed by anyone anywhere, but only members with certain privileges can edit pages.

Private wikis, the can only be viewed by people who were invited by the developer, and only members can access and edit it.

What is meant by soft security?

Being in good faith and assumes that people will do the right thing on these sites.

**Blogs**

1. What is a blog?

A website with only one main page, it acts as an on line journal.

It is maintained by only one person that makes regular entries.

1. Distinguish between a blog and a wiki.

A wiki usually focus on one particular topic or subject, that is moderated by several people in a community with several pages, a blog is posts about anything and everything that happens within someone’s life, that is changed and edited by a single person with one main page.

**Forums**

1. Describe the nature of a forum.

A forum is an online message board or discussion

1. What is a thread?

A thread is a is a single topic that is brought up by a user, other users come into that thread and post based on that topic or on other comments within that thread.

**Purpose of an online community:**

1. To broadcast information and events using various tools
   1. List tools for broadcasting information.

Simple website, blog, email mailing list,rss feed

* 1. What is a RSS feed?

Is live updates of content from a variety of sources.

1. To facilitate discussions, collaboration & information using tools
   1. What is required for collaborative problem solving to work well?

A team with a common purpose, voluntary membership, equal access and goals achievable with a time limit.

* 1. Distinguish between synchronous and asynchronous collaboration.

Synchronous is real time, live chats or video conferences and asynchronous is e-mail or a discussion thread.

1. To store and develop organisational knowledge
   1. List the tools for knowledge sharing and exchange.

Wikis, SharePoint, groupware, content management systems.

**Characteristics of online communities, p 57**

Be aware of the following:

In setting up an online community characteristics of communities need to be taken into account:

1. Online communities appealing to gender groups
2. Online communities appealing to special needs
3. Online communities appealing to cultural needs
4. Age-restrictive and age-targeted communities
5. Access requirements need also to be considered, (open or closed).

**Non-Technical Constraints on developing a website for a community, p 58**

1. Ensuring privacy in an online community
   1. Describe the strategies that co-ordinators can put in place to decrease the risk of privacy attacks.

Requests for membership verification.

Complex and regularly updated passwords

Regular and enforced moderation

* 1. How does the Information Privacy Act protect privacy?

Provides protection on data as it states that” data collected cannot be used for any other purpose without consent.

1. Copyright in online communities
   1. What copyright considerations need to be taken into account when setting up a community?

To make sure that the material that is used does not contain copyright material.

1. Human rights requirements
   1. What is contained in the Human Rights & Responsibilities Charter that covers members’ freedom, respect, equality and dignity.

No encouraging crimes, discrimination, victimisation.

1. Social online protocols
   1. What is meant by online protocols?

How you conduct yourself when in a social environment.